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LETTER DATED 22 MAY 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the violations of Iraqi national airspace committed by United States aircraft in order to carry out reconnaissance and cause provocation continued over the period 1-11 May 1995.

1 May 1995

(a) Northern region: 15 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Zakho, Dohuk, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Mosul, Irbil and Ayn Zalah.

(b) Southern region: 47 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Artawi, Jalibah, Qurnah, Chabaish, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Shatrah and Rumaythah.

2 May 1995

(a) Northern region: 17 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 45 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Nasiriyah, Salman, Qurnah, Hamzah and Artawi.

3 May 1995

Southern region: 34 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Nasiriyah, the area to the south of Diwaniyah, Salman, Jalibah, Artawi and Busayyah.

At 1347 hours on 3 May 1995, a United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at a speed of 600 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region. It left in the direction of Kuwait at 1450 hours.

4 May 1995

(a) Northern region: 14 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Zakho, Amadiyah, Ayn Zalah, Mosul, Irbil, Aqrah and Dohuk.

(b) Southern region: 27 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Artawi, Jalibah, Busayyah, Chabaish, Qurnah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Shatrah and Salman.

At 1000 hours on 4 May 1995, a United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at a speed of 600 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region. It left in the direction of Kuwait at 1154 hours.

On 3 May 1995 a hostile formation consisting of four Tornado aircraft overflew Ninawa Governorate at low altitude.

5 May 1995

(a) Northern region: 17 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Aqrah, Zakho and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 29 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basra, Amarah, Salman, Artawi, Qurnah and Busayyah.

On 5 May 1995, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, as follows:

1. The first flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1020 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1145 hours.

2. The second flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1333 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1500 hours.

6 May 1995

Southern region: 28 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Basra, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Jalibah, Artawi and Busayyah.

At 1400 hours on 6 May 1995, a United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at a speed of 600 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace. It left in the direction of Kuwait at 1433 hours.

7 May 1995

(a) Northern region: 15 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Zakho, Amadiyah, Dohuk, Ayn Zalah, Mosul, Irbil, Tall Afar and Shaqlawah.

(b) Southern region: 62 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Artawi, Jalibah, Busayyah, Chabaish, Qurnah, Nasiriyah, Salman, the area to the south of Diwaniyah, the area to the south of Najaf, Lasaf, Shanafiyah and Shatrah.

At 1608 hours on 7 May 1995, a United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at a speed of 600 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace. It left in the direction of Kuwait at 1735 hours.

8 May 1995

(a) Northern region: 21 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho, Tall Afar and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 54 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Amarah, Qurnah, Busayyah, Jalibah and Artawi.

9 May 1995

(a) Northern region: 11 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 75 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Basra, Amarah, Jalibah and Busayyah.

On 9 May 1995, three United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, as follows:

1. The first flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1005 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1128 hours.

2. The second flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1130 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1325 hours.

3. The third flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1320 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1500 hours.

At 1048 hours on 9 May 1995, a hostile two-aircraft formation dropped five heat flares to the south of the Qush area in Ninawa Governorate.

10 May 1995

Southern region: 60 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Artawi, Jalibah, Busayyah, Chabaish, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Hamzah and Basra.

On 10 May 1995, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, as follows:

1. The first flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1015 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1140 hours.

2. The second flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1305 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1502 hours.

11 May 1995

Southern region: 126 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basra, Amarah, Qurnah, Chabaish and Ushbayjah.

At 1347 hours on 11 May 1995, a hostile two-aircraft formation broke the sound barrier in the Nasiriyah area.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative